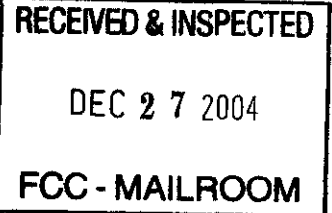


Northwestern College & Radio

December 15, 2004



Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Ms. Dortch:

RE: MB Docket No. 04-233

This letter is in response to the question of localism and the FCC's desire to hear comments regarding the same.

Our radio network had its beginning in 1949 when KTIS AM/FM, under the ownership of Northwestern College, signed on the air. The network has grown to 15 licenses.

We broadcast in the following markets: Minneapolis/St. Paul and Duluth, MN; Waterloo and Des Moines, IA; Fargo, ND; Sioux Falls, SD; Madison, WI; and Sarasota, FL. Our format is religious with mainly music on the FM stations and talk programming on the AM stations. Our drive time programs place an emphasis on music, time, weather, news and other information. We often have people from the community on the air to highlight community events that our listeners may want to know about or be involved in.

Our stations participate in local charitable causes and include programming to minority communities. It is important to us to be a voice for these various entities. We feel we can place a microphone in the middle of those situations. Some examples:

- We assisted with YMCA Coats for Kids in one of our markets.
- One of our stations collects used wheelchairs for an organization that refurbishes them and then distributes them within the United States as well as internationally.
- Our stations have collected coats and other outerwear garments for distribution in the inner cities.
- At concert events, we have collected tons of grocery items for food shelves.
- We provide programming for organizations such as Hope for the City and Allies (local youth ministries) and City Sites Urban Media (highlights local inner city organizations).
- We have ongoing programs for the local African-American community as well as a local Hmong broadcast in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area.

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During the Christmas season our stations have participated in Operation Christmas Child (collecting shoe boxes filled with small gift items which are then distributed to needy children here and abroad) and Angel Tree (gifts collected and distributed to children of incarcerated parents).

One of our goals is to present comprehensive news coverage. We run top of the hour headlines from the AP news service along with The Religion Desk, often getting into stories not covered by the general fare of other radio stations. This provides listeners more information so they can make better-informed decisions on issues relating to government, albeit the political scene, or community issues.

The Religion Desk also provides an opportunity to inform listeners in all our markets of events beyond their local area and give them the opportunity to be involved. For example, we helped tell the story of hurricane victims in Florida. The state was hit with four hurricanes this summer. Salvation Army volunteers were working all across the state to provide storm victims with necessary food, clothing and shelter. We interviewed Major George Hood a number of times as he toured Florida assessing needs for emergency assistance. The Salvation Army set a four million dollar goal for their disaster relief funds and we encouraged our listeners and others across the nation (via satellite feed) to donate on behalf of their fellow Americans in Florida.

The station is important locally when it stays on the air during hazardous weather to provide weather and safety information for people caught right in the midst of a storm. This kind of service may be taken for granted in normal times but, in times of need, everyone is glad to be able to turn to radio. We consider it a privilege and welcome opportunity to serve our listeners.

Sincerely,

For all Northwestern stations

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Harv Hendrickson", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Harv Hendrickson
Vice President for Broadcast Support

HH/jg